



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

SEP 30 2006

I am returning Senate Bill 1521 without my signature.

Last year I vetoed a similar measure because it would have allowed the media to glamorize murderers and thereby once again traumatize crime victims and their families.

I am vetoing this bill for the same reason.

I believe California must provide greater access to our prisons through the media, especially now as we address problems with overcrowding, medical care and high recidivism rates.

There are portions of this bill that would facilitate greater media access and let the sun shine in; however I do not believe violent criminals should be able to traumatize their victims a second time by having unfettered access to the media. Therefore, I have directed the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to immediately issue new regulations to implement the provisions of this bill to allow media access, but limit media access to specific violent criminals in order to protect crime victims and their families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arnold Schwarzenegger", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Arnold Schwarzenegger